

Hertford County Highlights

Quarterly Newsletter
ISSUE 03 January - March 2012



Hertford County Highlights Local African American Impact on History

As February marks the celebration of Black History Month across our Nation, we recognize there are many accomplishments and contributions of African Americans in Hertford County. In this issue, Hertford County Highlights would like to take the opportunity to spotlight the stories, and accomplishments of just a few of those who have made such an important impact in the history of our area, and our Nation. Pictured above, from left to right, we will feature; Democratic Senator, Edward W. Jones; World War II Veteran and Tuskegee Airman, Roy Richardson; and Democratic Representative Annie Ward Mobley, North Carolina House of Representatives.

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Print responsibly

Vast influences from the African American community are etched in our American history. Many firsts, inventions, and triumphs make “Black History Month” so special. Hertford County is rich with heritage, but did you know that there are and were several accomplishments that can be tied to Hertford County and its roots.

N. C. Senator Edward W. Jones represents the 4th Senatorial District which includes: Bertie, Chowan, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton and Perquimans County. Senator Jones is a graduate of Western Piedmont College and the NC State Administrative Officer’s Program. He is a retired First Sergeant of the NC Highway Patrol and US Army Veteran who served in the 82nd Airborne Division.

Senator Jones Senate Standing Committee Assignments consist of Vice-Chairman, Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety; Appropriations/Base Budget, Select Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Response, Judiciary II, Mental Health & Youth Services, Redistricting and State and Local Government. Hertford County benefits from Senator Jones expertise because he represents the county with a special understanding of rural issues. Senator Jones was the First African-American to serve on the Board of Trustees for Chowan University and voted Officer of the Year for Hertford and Bertie County. Senator Jones is married to Mary Ann Holden. They have two daughters and three granddaughters.



Tuskegee Airman, Roy Richardson is the great, great grandson of the late Noah Askew Sr. of Askewville, North Carolina. Roy Richardson is a member of the Tuskegee Airmen and was awarded the congressional Gold Medal by President George W.

Bush in 2007. Mr. Richardson was also invited along with other Tuskegee Airmen to the inauguration of President Barack Obama, the Nation’s first black president.



The Tuskegee Airmen were the first group of African American pilots in the military. They fought in World War II, formally they were the 332nd fighter group and the 477th bombardment group of the US Army Air Corps. In 1941 Congress forced the army corps to form an all black combat unit. The Tuskegee Airmen were subjected to racial discrimination both within and outside the army. Despite these adversities, they trained and flew with distinction. The Pilots of the 332nd fighter group painted the tails of P-47 planes red, coining the nickname RED TAILS.

Mr. Richardson joined the US Army Air Corps in 1948 and took his basic training at Lackland Field, Texas. He was assigned to the 332nd fighter group at Lockbourne Field, Columbus Ohio under the command of Lt. Col Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. Mr. Richardson worked the flight line, pre- flighting, taxiing and performing aircraft maintenance. Mr. Richardson earned his pilot’s license at Horns Flying School at Chagrin Falls Airport in 1953 which is located in Cleveland Ohio.

Tuskegee Airman Roy Richardson is currently retired and resides in Cleveland Ohio. Mr. Richardson is the family member of two of our Hertford County Employees, Jacqueline White and Geneene Lassiter who both work for Hertford County DSS.

N. C. Representative Annie Ward Mobley, of the North Carolina House of Representatives, representing the 5th district, is a 1963 graduate of Elizabeth City State Teachers College (now Elizabeth City State University) and furthered her education at Morgan State University, East Carolina University and North Carolina State University. For several years she served Hertford County and its’ citizens as Chief Court Counselor in the Administrative Office of the Courts, 6B Judicial District, NC. After Retirement, she felt the call to serve her community in an even greater capacity and was elected by voters to make a difference.

Representative Mobley serves on several committees, including, Agriculture, Appropriations, Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety, Election Law, Judiciary C, Redistricting and Government/State Personnel. Rep. Mobley interests include service on the following local boards and committees: Exodus for Youth, Inc., Hertford County Smart Start Initiative; National Conference of State Legislators Law and Criminal Justice Committee; R.L. Vann Community Resource Center, Inc.; and the Roanoke-Chowan Community Health Center Board. In addition to service in these organizations, Representative Mobley is an active Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the local Ahoskie Alumnae Chapter.

Representative Mobley is married to Leonard “Duke” Mobley, retired Lead Magistrate for Hertford County. They have two children and five grandchildren.

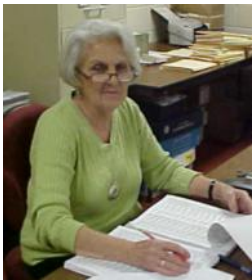


-Representative Mobley ‘s opening day 2009-10

A Dedicated Service

44 years and counting!

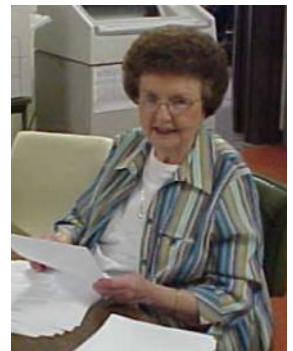
Is there any doubt the Tax Assessor's office starts the New Year off with a BANG? Just ask anyone who works in this office! January is one of the busiest months with the listing, applications for exemptions, numerous phone calls from taxpayers as well as walk-ins. Thank goodness for our faithful list-takers, Ms. Carolyn Brinkley and Ms. June Merritt, who come each year during this time to



assist us! Every year in the month of October, we wait in anticipation for that phone call from those ladies confirming whether they will be coming the following year. Each year when we get "the call", we know the New Year with all the hustling and bustling will go so much smoother with their help.

Ms. Carolyn came to work in this office in January, 1968 and Ms. June joined her in January, 1972. While Ms. Carolyn handled listings at the Ahoskie Police Station and eventually moved to the Amory in Ahoskie, Ms. June handled the Harrellsville area. "Back then", according to the ladies, the scrolls were handwritten. The taxpayers were required to list everything they owned. This included furniture, jewelry, smokehouse contents, dogs, poultry and all livestock. Livestock was charged according to how much the livestock weighed (per pound). The ladies, prior to them becoming list takers, even recall when the county had two books for recording the listing, one labeled *Colored* and one labeled *White*! Originally, the ladies were paid by the County on a contingency fee per listing form completed. The years following, they were paid on an hourly wage. No doubt about it, there has been many changes over the years!

Over the decades, Ms. Carolyn and Ms. June have assisted many newcomers to this area as well as the "old timers" who strongly insist for the ladies to assist them with their listings. Even when there is a line practically out the door to list and the other staff will offer to help, they will patiently wait until they get to sit down with them. The ladies have seen and heard it all, from the time a father and son came into the office to list and when asked, "Do you have any dogs"? The father replied, "No, can hardly feed my family as it is".



The young son pulled on his father's shirt sleeve, and said, "Papa, what about 'Bobo'? At that point, Ms. Carolyn remembers writing down the number of dogs as "Bobo"!

Ms. Carolyn and Ms. June have been very instrumental in this office. Each year, they bring their experience as well as their vast amount of knowledge with them to make it yet another successful year. Once listing time is over for 2012, we continue to be busy with other business, but you can rest assured, when October comes around again, we will be waiting for "the call".



-Contributed by the Tax Assessor's Office



Groundhog Day is celebrated in the U.S. each year on February 2nd. On this day in mid-winter, the groundhog awakens from a long winter's nap, and goes outside of his den to see if he sees his shadow. This tradition is big on an otherwise cold and dreary mid-winter's day.

According to legend, if the groundhog sees his shadow (a sunny morning), there will be six more weeks of winter. He then returns to his den and goes back to sleep. If however, he does not see his shadow (cloudy days), he plays around outside of his hole for a while. If he does not see his shadow, spring is just around the corner.

The Groundhog's Day tradition travelled long ways. It comes from German roots. German immigrants brought the tradition with them from Germany. As they settled in hills of Pennsylvania, they began the tradition of using the Groundhog to predict the arrival of Spring. The tradition is based upon Candlemas, the day that is the midpoint between Winter and Spring. A famous Candlemas poems goes:

*If Candlemas be fair and bright,
Winter has another flight.
If Candlemas brings clouds and rain,
Winter will not come again.*



Hertford County's Women in Agriculture is gearing up for another year of education and fun! This is a great organization to join if you are interested in learning about agriculture, healthy lifestyles, and meeting new people. Last year the ladies were able to take a trip to the NC State Fair to learn about the crops produced, foods produced, and animals produced in North Carolina. The ladies also contributed over 50 cans of food to the eastern North Carolina food bank on this trip. The ladies hosted a soup and sandwich fundraiser in which all proceeds went towards Read Lead Succeed of Hertford County to purchase agriculture related books for the classrooms. The ladies learned about making jam, fall gardening, conserving electricity, and making crafts. And don't worry they have fun too! At the closing of the year the ladies took a trip to see the Christmas lights at Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Please feel free to join this great organization every second Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Hertford County Cooperative Extension Office. The ladies are planning another exciting year and you will want to be part of it! The next meeting will be on February 9, 2012 so mark your calendars! If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Wendy or Stephanie at the Extension Office ([252-358-7822](tel:252-358-7822)) or email wendy_drake@ncsu.edu. We hope to see you on Thursday February 9, 2012!



In 2011 at the NC State Fair the Women in Agriculture had the opportunity to meet with Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler and were able to talk with him about the recent storm damage in Hertford County. Pictured above are the Ladies with Commissioner Troxler.



Phil says 6 More Weeks of Winter!!!

Punxsutawney, PA

Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania is the site of the annual Ground Hog event. Our little rodent friend (yes, Groundhogs are classified as rodents) is called Punxsutawney Phil. There are a few other "predictors" around the country, but they all pale in comparison to Phil's ability to predict the remainder of winter!

For the Record Phil sees his shadow about 9 out of 10 times!

Departmental Highlights

EMS

- Hertford County would like to introduce our new employees that joined our staff on January 11, 2012. Full time staff includes Rose Mizelle, EMT-Intermediate, Wendy Burge, EMT-Basic and Neal Brinkley, EMT-Basic. Our new part time employees are Ethan Bryant, EMT-Basic and John Bradley, EMT-Basic. Neal is the son of Debbie Brinkley that works as a Social Worker with DSS.
- In December our staff participated in a continuing education training hosted by Winton Fire Department. This was a first time event providing rehab to firefighters while on live burn training exercise. On February 11, 2012 we will be assisting with the second annual Polar Plunge held at Riverside hosted by the Special Olympics.
- For the calendar year of 2011, our service was paged and we responded to 3198 calls; this includes patients transported, cancel calls, refusals and stand by events. Hertford County EMS actually transported 2705 patients including emergency and non-emergency calls.

Data Center

Spam email: Even though the amount of spam at the in county email is less than the worldwide average, its impact is still significant. 70 to 80% of the world's email is spam. However, only 20% of county email is spam — largely due to steps already taken to address the problem. A large part of why the counties email spam ratio is so low is Red Condor, which is one of the industry's most powerful anti-spam tools. You may have noticed email messages in your inbox from Daily Digest, this is your spam log from the *previous* day. Any blocked emails from the previous day will be listed in this log. To view an email that was blocked simply click the 'view' link next to the blocked email. This will open another window where you can review the blocked message. At the bottom of this window you are given the options to release the email, if its valid or to logout (leave the message blocked). Daily Digest emails are sent out at midnight if any spam email was detected that day. If you did not receive a Daily Digest email, then you did not have any blocked messages the previous day. So if you're missing any messages, check your Daily Digest. Call the Data Center for further information.

Phishing Scams: Phishing scams are techniques spammers employ to entice email recipients into divulging personal information and sensitive data such as credit card, bank account, and Social Security numbers and passwords. Once this information is in the hands of a phisher, it can be exploited for financial gain or other malicious purposes. While phishing isn't well known to many, it has already become one of the fastest growing forms of identity theft. For example, in the six month period from November 2010 to May 2011, phishing attacks increased by 4000 percent. This explosion in prevalence is expected to continue, making it incumbent upon users to educate themselves about phishing in order to minimize their risks. Do not give out account information, usernames, password or social security numbers in email. Here are some best practices that will help protect you and your computer:

- Beware of messages that claim your account has been suspended.
- Be suspicious of any email with urgent requests for personal financial information.
- Never click on a link in an email. Instead, always type the legitimate Web address of the site you want to reach directly into your Web browser.
- Be suspicious of email messages and other electronic communications from sources you do not know or recognize.
- Report any suspicious emails.

If you have any questions you can always contact the Data Center for advice.

A WORD FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNTY MANAGER ...

New Year's Resolution:

Of the 8,760 hours in a year, we spend roughly 1/3 working, 1/3 sleeping and 1/3 leisurely on personal time or with family. Wonder why our new year's resolutions tend to address only our leisure or personal time. Again, we spend more time in the workplace compared to waking hours at home. Why shouldn't we strive to be happy or better in the workplace? Interesting? So, I – yes the dinosaur – Googled it, and found workplace resolutions that I got rather excited about. Here goes:

1. Pay Attention in Class – Treat every workday like a school day. Be sure to learn something and use it to make yourself more productive.
2. Look for the Next Rung (my favorite) – Career pathing is critical to remaining engaged on the job. If you can't get it in your department, seek it in others.
3. Understand Department Goals – Make sure you understand how your job contributes to the overall objectives of your department. If it hasn't been explained to you by your supervisor; just ask.
4. Be Ethical – Bring integrity to your job. Put in an honest day's work. Be accountable.
5. Stay Fit – Try to break a sweat for 20 minutes three days a week.
6. Stretch Your Role – Occasionally think how you can go above and beyond. (I promise you guys, I did not write this stuff)
7. Manage Up – Make sure you and your department head are in firm agreement on what you're doing. Don't assume he or she is paying close attention.
8. Manage Across – Even if you work primarily alone, be sure to make time to understand your peers' roles and how they go about their jobs.
9. Communicate – Don't leave people waiting for answers.
10. Make Time for Play – Have fun. Work hard, but smile while you're doing it. No one likes a grump! Approach each day with a positive spirit and stay loose.

Let's resolve to be happier in the workplace this year! We owe it to ourselves to make this third of our lives as fulfilling! Happy New Year!

Data Center Welcomes Charlie:

You may have seen him around already, Charlie is a new addition to the Data Center team and is eager and willing to help anyway he can! And, no, contrary to many accusations, he does not play guitar for ZZ Top!



Departmental Highlights (cont.)

Hertford County Cooperative Extension

NC Epsilon Sigma Phi recognized our team for their outstanding performance during the year of 2011.

Received a \$7,000 grant to implement "Essentials to Parenting" for parents or individuals who are preparing for Parenthood. For more information, contact Stephanie Parker-Helmkamp or Crystal M. Smith, 358-7822!

Refer/send a youth ages 8 – 13 to attend a one-week residential camp at BJP 4-H Camp in Reidsville, NC during the week of July 8 – 13, 2012. Limited scholarships may be available. Call Crystal M. Smith, 358-7822 today to reserve your spot! Spaces are limited to 10 campers!

Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/HertfordNCCES> or <http://hertford.ces.ncsu.edu/> for more information.

Hertford County Inspections

We have been very busy experiencing a heavy load of commercial plans for permits for the following businesses:

Chowan University 2 -3 Story building Apt/Suite, **Food Lion of Murfreesboro**-Renovation, **Family Dollar of Murfreesboro**-Renovation, **New State Employees Credit Union-Murfreesboro** job nearly completed, **Structural Coating -Cofield** – job completed, **Sun Power -Murfreesboro**- job Completed, **Metal Tech of Murfreesboro**-2 Additions



Hertford County Land Records

The NC Center for Geographic Information is now managing a 2012 Coastal Orthoimagery Project, funded by the NC 911 board. This project will be similar to the Statewide 2010 orthoimagery Project in that Hertford County will obtain high resolution color orthoimagery early in the beginning of next year. Flights should start in early February for this project.

Hertford County Public Library

Summer Reading program coming soon!!!!!!



Social Services

Adult Service Unit Highlights: Adult Services successfully transitioned to new policy for the Crisis Intervention Program effective December 1, 2011. The new policy eliminated the criteria that priority be given to adults that are disabled, aged (over 60 years old), and/or children 2 years of age or younger. This change in policy essentially eliminated the priority criteria and opened up the application process to anyone that needs assistance with heating assistance and is experiencing a crisis. We are taking Crisis Intervention Program applications for heating assistance monthly with the Outreach program at the Quola building in Murfreesboro through DSS.

Food and Nutrition Services: The FNS unit has successfully completed another year of LIEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program). LIEAP is a onetime payment per year to help eligible families pay their heating expense. Applications were taken from December 1st through January 31st for families with all members 60 years old and older or disabled. All other eligible families were able to apply for the program from February 1st through March 31st. However, the FNS unit distributed \$50,200.00 within a two-week period that depleted the funds and ended the program. Payments this year was made directly to vendors that supplied the applicants heating source. The FNS unit is happy to have been able to help the citizens of Hertford County stay warm this winter season.



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to Alicia Mitchell, from the Office of Aging, as the winner of the Employee of the Quarter award for the Fall 2011 Quarter. Alicia was nominated by Daphne Lee and was chosen for her outstanding productivity with her contributions towards the Senior Fun Day. "She went above the call of duty, volunteering her time and energy to make this event a great success, and she did it with a smile."



For over 10 years you have known us as the ViQuest Center. On January 25th, we are now, Vidant Wellness Center!

Although we have a new name and logo, we are still committed to serving the fitness needs of eastern North Carolina through our three locations in Ahoskie, Greenville, and Washington. With our new name, we are more recognizable as a leader in health care and wellness as being part of Vidant Health.



Elections



2012 is a Presidential year . This will be a very busy year for the Board of Elections. Filing, voter registration and voter participation will increase dramatically.

ARE YOU READY for 2012?

- **Is my voter record up-to-date and current?** Now is a great time to check your voter registration status. If you have moved within the county or changed your name we would like to correct that information. If you need to make changes such as name of address updates, simply go online for the forms or stop by the Elections Office. Changes must be authorized in writing.
- **Where do I vote?** This information is on the voter card we mailed you when you registered to vote. If you make an update to your record we will automatically mail you a new card with this information. If you're still not sure just give us a call at 252-358-7812 or go to the State Board of Elections website for all your voter information: www.ncsbe.gov
- **Are you considering running for public office?** There are many rules and regulations regarding candidacy in NC. Please call or come by the Elections Office **BEFORE** spending or receiving any money regarding running for public office.

2012 Election Dates

Filing begins: Monday, February 13, 2012	Noon
Filing ends: Wednesday, February 29, 2012	Noon
Registration books close Friday, April 13, 2012	5:00 PM
One Stop voting begins Thursday, April 19, 2012	8:30 AM
One Stop voting ends Saturday, May 05, 2012	1:00 PM
Primary Election Date Tuesday, May 08, 2012 Polls Open	6:30 AM 7:30 PM
Presidential Election Tuesday, November 06, 2012	

OFFICES TO BE ELECTED IN 2012

- ◆ US President and Vice President
- ◆ US Congress
- ◆ NC Senate
- ◆ NC House of Representative
- ◆ Governor
- ◆ Lt. Governor
- ◆ Council of State
- ◆ 3 County Commissioners
- ◆ Register of Deeds
- ◆ 2 Board of Education Members
- ◆ 1 Soil and Water Conservation Supervisor
- ◆ Several Judges

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mindful eating: The concept of mindfulness means paying attention to the events, activities, and thoughts in your daily life. Mindfulness means doing things with purpose, not just going through routine motions with little awareness of what is being done at any given moment.

When applied to eating habits, mindfulness means eating with awareness of what is on your plate and what you are putting in your mouth. You may have heard the expression “savor the flavor.” This is part of what is involved with mindful eating. Being more conscious of the entire eating experience is another part.

Consider sitting down to watch television, bowl of ice cream in hand. You may be aware of the first few bites and the last few bites. But often all the ice cream eaten in between is lost to whatever program is on the screen. It has been suggested that we can improve our eating habits by making small behavioral changes over time. Studies have shown that those who adopt ways to live and eat more mindfully have improved health and are better able to control their weight.

Follow these suggestions to live and eat more mindfully:

- Set realistic expectations. Select one meal or snack each day and commit to focusing on mindful eating for just that time.
- Eat only at the table. Minimize mindless eating by sitting and giving the meal your full attention. Do not eat while driving or working at your desk.
- Set aside time for eating without distractions. This means no cell phone, television, computer or newspaper.
- Use utensils and put them down between mouthfuls. By eating more slowly, you may notice the difference between satisfaction and being overly full.
- Focus on each bite. Think about the flavor, texture, and sound of the food in your mouth.
- Aim for quality, not quantity. This will raise awareness of how much you eat while you learn to enjoy smaller portions.

-Article taken from the Winter 2011 Successful Families Newsletter



Are you interested in **SAVING MONEY???**

Winter: The winter months can be especially hard on your wallet when it comes to heating your home. Here are some things you can do to save money by keeping the warm air inside your home. For starters, set your thermostat to the lowest comfortable temperature, which is suggested to be around 68 degrees. The lower you set it the more money you save. You can even turn it down 10-15 degrees when you're sleeping or away from the home. You can also insulate the outlets and switches on the walls with foam pads beneath the cover plates. While you're at it add insulation and shades on south facing windows open to allow sunlight to heat your home. Be sure to clean warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed; make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting, or drapes. There are several more tips you can use to reduce what you spend on your winter heating bill. For these tips and other resources visit the Department of Energy website:

<http://www.energysavers.gov/tips/>



Peanuts

Enjoying North Carolina peanuts is an easy way to eat healthfully and support the local food economy. A one-ounce serving of peanuts (a small handful) contains approximately 170 calories, 3 grams fiber, 7 grams protein, and 13 grams fat. Peanuts contain heart-healthy, mono- and polyunsaturated fats, which may help lower levels of LDL (bad) cholesterol. Peanuts are naturally cholesterol-free and contain only a trace of sodium if no salt has been added.

For the healthiest option, choose plain peanuts labeled “unsalted,” “50% less salt,” or “lightly salted.” Sprinkle chopped peanuts on breakfast cereal, salads, and casseroles for added flavor and texture. To maintain freshness and quality, store peanuts in a cool dry place, at or below 70°F. Peanuts stay fresh indefinitely when stored in a tightly closed container in the freezer.

For even more flavor, roast peanuts. Spread nuts in a single layer on a baking pan. Roast in a 400°F pre-heated oven for 7 to 10 minutes or until they start to turn golden. Shake the pan halfway through roasting. You can also cook the peanuts in a single layer in a pan over medium-high heat. Stir continually for five to seven minutes.

-Article taken from the Winter 2011 Successful Families Newsletter

What's in Season?

Apples

Leafy Greens

Peanuts

Sweet Potatoes



Healthy Recipe:

Gluten-Free Peanut Butter Cookies

Servings per recipe: 4

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease cookie sheets.

Beat together peanut butter and sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer until smooth. Add beaten egg and baking soda to peanut butter mixture and beat until well combined.

Roll 1 teaspoon of dough into a ball and place on cookie sheet. Place dough balls one inch apart on cookie sheet and flatten with tines of fork, making a cross pattern.

Bake until puffed and golden pale, about 10 minutes. Cool cookies on baking sheet about 2 minutes and then transfer with spatula to rack to finish cooling. May be kept in airtight container at room temperature for 5 days.

Nutrition Information PER COOKIE

98.6 calories, 5.6 g fat, 3 g protein, 10.5 g carbohydrate, 0.6 g fiber, 8.9 mg cholesterol, 103 mg sodium.

Ingredients:

1 cup peanut butter

1 cup sugar

1 large egg, beaten

1 tsp baking soda



For more peanut recipes visit: www.aboutpeanuts.com



Jamie Ambrose
Tax Assessor's Office



Jaime Ambrose is a Hertford County Native that resides in Winton with her family. She enjoys fishing, decorating, going to the beach, photography, and spending quality time with her children. "I am thankful that I can raise my children in a town in which the neighbors are friendly, and the streets are safe for them to play." To add to the allure of Winton, Ms. Ambrose believes that the

Chowan River is "a beautiful part of Hertford County...the scenery is amazing, especially in the spring when the leaves are changing colors."

Improving education in Hertford County is high on Ambrose's list. "I would like to see our school system improve...our children desperately need a good education to be successful in life." When asked what could be added to assist with this improvement, Ms. Ambrose suggested "more activities, and family oriented facilities for youth."



Eva Peele
Office of Aging



*"I am a caring person
 even though I may
 not show it."*

As a Hertford County native, living in Winton town limits, Eva Peele enjoys the small town rural atmosphere. "I have lived here all my life and enjoy helping people in my community." Peele enjoys cooking, and likes to clean alone while listening to music. "I do my best work like that," stated Peele.

Hertford County is a great place to live, but if there was one thing that she would like to see changed would be the emphasis that is placed on the senior citizens in the community. "Seniors have to choose between medicine and proper food and I wish there was some way our community could help them not have to choose." However, Ms. Peele does find that the Senior Center is a bright spot in the Hertford County community. The Senior Center is a place where senior citizens can come and have a hot and nutritious meal, spend time communicating with their peers, and exercise for much needed mental and physical strength.



Employee Spotlight



Terrance Dempsey
Jail

Terrance Dempsey is a native of Hertford County who resides in Ahoskie. Mr. Dempsey spends his free time playing basketball, bicycling, exercising to stay in shape, and attending church activities. A bright spot or must visit in Hertford County is "Greater Wynn's Grove Baptist Church."

*"I'm quiet, easy
 going, and
 humorous."*

Mr. Dempsey sees a homeless shelter as a much needed addition in our community. "There are more and more people and families in need of assistance such as food and clothing as well as shelter, and we as a community need to do more to help."



Robyn Nunnally
Farm Service Agency

Robyn Nunnally comes to Hertford County by way of Dinwiddie, Virginia. She currently resides in Suffolk, Va. Ms. Nunnally's passion is horseback riding and she currently has one horse that she shows.

*"If you aren't
 interested in the
 answer, then don't
 ask the question."*

Since being employed here in Hertford County, Ms. Nunnally finds the agricultural presence impressive.

"There are farmers here that are excellent stewards of the land."



Valentine's Day



LUCKY FOUR LEAF CLOVER!!!



In Irish tradition, the Shamrock or 3-leaf Clover represents the Holy Trinity: One leaf for the Father, one for the Son, and one for the Holy Spirit. When a Shamrock is found with the fourth leaf, it is said to represent God's Grace.

Q E R O D A I T J R B E L E S
H I G D A T E H A E I N G H S
A E N M Z O M A I E W H R A I
S D A V A L E N T I N E I A K
T C S R H A N C F U R O L M B
O R C U T S H S A I E S N R R
I A A A K S M G M N V V D R Y
F N R U D G I D O T D K O G A
D B D M T N A V U M B Y H L D
I E U I B T O I R Y A T U E T
P R E Y E O O N W K E R G N G
U R V R A N H C O O M S O I T
C Y C H O C O L A T E E R M F
F E S T E N I W N I K P M E I
S X O F L O W E R S E W S B G

Find these words:

Adore	Chocolate	Hearts	Secret Admirer
Amour	Cupid	Hug	Smooch
Be Mine	Date	Kiss	Valentine
Candy	Flowers	Jewelry	Wine
Card	Gift	Love	



Did you know that leprechauns love to be mischievous and spend all their time busily making shoes, and store all their coins in a hidden pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? Legend has it that if you can capture a leprechaun, he will grant you 3 wishes in exchange for his release! Sounds like a great reason to chase rainbows to me!!! Don't believe me? Just ask Wikipedia!



HERTFORD COUNTY BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA

Q: I was born a slave in Hertford County in 1832, and in 1905 I became the first African American post man. Who am I?

Q: During the time of 1940-1955 we formed an African American baseball league in Hertford County which consisted of the Ahoskie War Hawks, Chowan Bees and the Como Eagles. One of our very own, Sherman Jones made it to the major league. Who are we?

GET RECOGNIZED! BE THE FIRST TO ANSWER BOTH THESE TRIVIA QUESTIONS CORRECTLY! EMAIL YOUR ANSWERS TO:
jacqueline.white@hertfordcountync.gov

CHRISTMAS RECAP

Congratulations to all the lucky winners of prizes and drawings during the Christmas and Holiday Celebrations! Here is a quick recap !

GRAND PRIZE WINNER

A fun time was had by all at the Annual Christmas Party. Along with good food and fellowship, we were honored to have a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Then, Assistant County Manager John Rankins led us in a hilarious sing-along version of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Before the fun ended, several door prizes consisting of poinsettias and gift cards were given away. The last door prize given away was a “surprise” gift, and the lucky winner was Mr. Paul Vaughan, Code Enforcement Officer. The “surprise” grand prize was a \$350 gift card. Congratulations, Paul!

What a great time we had at this years' SoundSide Christmas Party; music, socializing and nice raffle prizes, but most importantly SoundSide employees had fun meeting each of you. Congratulations to the following Door Prize Winners!



**Congratulations to Diane Merrick,
Winner of a \$10 gift card donated by a
member of the Hertford County
Highlights for answering the
Christmas Trivia!!!**

Lori Chavis - Tax Collector
Sandy Brock - Tax Assessor
Crystal Askew - Tax Assessor
Sara Turner - Land Records
Phyllis Kaylor - Finance
Helen White - Finance
Melvin Nichols - Water Department
Tiffany Walton - Social Services
Jackie White - Social Services
Brenda Brown - Social Services
Dana Riddick - Social Services

We also wanted to congratulate Kathy Richmond and Tammy Piland for knowing the answers to the Trivia questions from our Fall issue.

The location of Ahoskie's first putt-putt was on Jersey St., where the club Chubbies is now located, and Hertford County took over the ferry operation on April 5th, 1886!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY

JANUARY

CHARLES NEWSOME
CHARLES REYNOLDS
CHARLISA KNIGHT
CHERYL DAVIS
CURTIS FREEMAN, SR.
EDWIN EVANS
GERTRUDE FAISON
IVY BOYCE
JESSICA HOGGARD
KASHANA VAUGHAN
KATHY MOORE
LINDA PORTER
LISA LESLEY
NETTIE BRICKERS
PHYLLIS HARRELL
SHARON LEWIS
WANDA LEARY

ALLISON HUNT
AMBER MOORE
ANDRE JONES
CINDY SMITH BARBER
DEBBIE COBB
ELMER VANN
HOWARD HUNTER, III
JACQUELINE WHITE
JAMES BROGLIN
KIMBERLY SMITH
LILLIAN WHITAKER
LINDA BLACKBURN
LIZZIE LLOYD
LLOYD PARKER
MARY WHITE
MELANIE STOREY
PATTY RICKS
PHYLLIS PARKER
REBECCA DAVISION
REUBEN GUNNELLS
SHELBY BAZEMORE
TIFFANY WALTON
TONYA FREEMAN
WILLIAM STROUD
DORA THOMPSON

MARCH

ANTRON GORDON
DEBORAH COBURN
DEBORAH EARLEY
DELHART DEMPSEY
HARRY CONNER
LINDA STEPHENSON
MYRTLE DAVIS
PHYLLIS KAYLOR
RONNIE JERNIGAN
SANDY BROCK
SARAH ROBBINS
TAMMI LEWTER
TERRANCE DEMPSEY
TIMOTHY LASSITER
VALERIE PIERCE
VERNON POPE
WILLIAM BLANCHARD, JR.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE

EMPLOYEE NAME	DEPARTMENT	Month	YEARS OF SERVICE
VANESSA SMALLWOOD	JAIL	January	10
JESSIE FENNELL, SR	SHERIFF DEPT	February	15
MARY WHITE	JAIL	February	5
SANDY BROCK	TAX ASSESSOR	February	20
WILLIAM STROUD	SHERIFF DEPT	February	5
BRENDA JONES	LIBRARY	March	10
DELOIS WILLIAMS	PUBLIC BUILDINGS	March	5

Recognizing those employees with 5 year increments of service

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY – (Relay for Life) –

- Angie Plaunty member of Griffey's Warriors is selling Relay Cups, Pink Bracelets and Pink Bookmarks, if you interested in purchasing one of these items contact Angie at 252-883-7275.
- Cheryl's Girls is selling Valentine's Cakes for \$3.00 each. Please contact Leigh Nowell @ 209-1189 for more information.
- Chowan University Alpha Sigma Tau will be having a Car Wash behind Advanced Auto in Ahoskie on Saturday, April 4th.
- Chowan Psychology Club is selling boxes of Krispy Kreme doughnuts \$5.00 per box. Delivery Feb 13th (money due by Feb 9th) Please contact Tanya @ tasinclair0303@chowan.edu
- Echoes of Love will be holding a yard sale, TBA.
- Eure Christian Church is having an Angel Tree during the months of March and April. Purchase an angel to be displayed on a tree in the Church for \$5.00.
- Gates County Educators have Celebrate t-shirts, quilt raffle and homemade hot mates, coasters and tissue holders for more information contact Anna Ewell @ 357-2379.
- Guardian Care is selling Ribbon Mesh Wreaths (Medium and Large). Contact Mary Lynn Rawls at 332-8225.
- Open Arms Church will be having a Gospel Sing and an Auction/Bazaar. Contact Joe Lassiter @ 287-8173 for more information.
- Nucor Steel has a Valentine's Basket Raffle, contact Nucor Steel at 356-3700 for information on how to purchase a ticket.
- Todd's Pharmacy has books, t-shirts, bracelets, cozies and hair bows. Also a Valentine's raffle. Please contact Todd's Pharmacy @ 357-1800 for more information.

February 2nd - DC based singer and songwriter, Lea at Chowan University Thursday from 7:30pm-9:00pm. This event is co-sponsored by the Campus Programming Board and Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.

February 3rd – Omega Sweetheart Jam at Quinton's in Ahoskie. For more information contact Tony at 252-642-3130 or Keith at 252-287-7793.

February 11th – Mt Tabor Church Relay Team will be selling hot dogs at the Just Save (Old Lowes Foods) in Ahoskie.

Hertford County Highlights

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February 11th – Union Baptist Church will be having a pancake breakfast as Andy's in Ahoskie from 7:00 to 10:00 AM.

February 11th – Crimson and Crème Gospel Concert featuring The Golden Harmonizers of Mapleton and the Gospel Ensemble of Murfreesboro at 5:00 PM at Parker's Grove Baptist Church in Mapleton, NC. Admission is free.

February 16th - James M. Guthrie Faculty Harpsichord Recital at Chowan University at 7:30 pm in Daniel Recital Hall.

February 27th – March 3rd - 2012 CIAA Basketball Tournament Charlotte, NC

Contact the Office of Development at (252) 398-1233 or email brownl@chowan.edu for your tickets today! You can also order them online at www.chowan.edu/forms/CIAAorderform.htm.

MARCH



March 6th – 29th – Youth Bootcamp at Vidant (Viquet) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 PM. This four week program is designed for children ages 7-12 and to get them active in a fun and entertaining way. Through Aqua Aerobics, Kick Boarding and Water Volleyball, children will be engaged in a non-competitive environment. The cost for the program is \$25 for members and \$50 for non-members.

March 8th - Chowan Singers and Chowan Winds Spring Concert at Chowan University at 7:30 PM in the Turner Auditorium.

March 29th - Bruce Moser Faculty Piano Recital at Chowan University at 7:30 PM in the Daniel Recital Hall.

March 29th - 6th Annual SeniorFest, Senior Adult Event at Chowan University. For more information, contact Chowan's Director of Church and Community Relations, Lou Ann Gilliam, at (252) 398-6317 or seniorfest@chowan.edu

